

*State of New York,
Court of Appeals.*



*Cuthbert W. Pound,
Chief Judge*

Albany, N. Y.,
June 7, 1933.

Rev. Stewart M. Robinson,
1161 East Jersey Street,
Elizabeth, N. J.

Dear Doctor Robinson:

I have your letter of June 5
and in reply thereto I have arranged as follows:
you are to inform Dr. Petersen, the Chaplain at
Sing Sing, when you would like to go through the
institution and if that day is convenient to him
he will receive you and extend to you every
possible courtesy. Of course we might get you a
pass or I might write a letter to the warden but
you will be cordially received by following the
course suggested.

With best regards to Mrs. Robinson,

Cordially yours,

Cuthbert W. Pound



LEWIS E. LAWES
WARDEN

STATE OF NEW YORK
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION
SING SING PRISON
OFFICE OF THE PROTESTANT CHAPLAIN
OSSINING

June 10th 1933.

Rev. Stewart M. Robinson
Second Presbyterian Church
East Jersey St. near Broad
Elizabeth, New Jersey.

My dear Robinson:

I shall be very happy to show you through our Institution on Monday, June 19th. If you could let me know about what time you will arrive here, I shall be at the Front Office to greet you.

I can give you some idea of a Chaplain's work and show you the high and low spots of Sing Sing. Would you care to see the "chair"? I cannot take any women or any laymen through, but if you want to bring a brother minister, I will arrange to take you both through.

As to witnessing an execution, that is entirely in the hands of Warden Lewis E. Lawes. Write to him and let him know that you are a friend of Hon. Cuthbert W. Pound, Chief Justice of the Court of Appeals; he may grant you the privilege. Please do not mention me in your letter.

Please address me at Box 12, Scarborough, N.Y. Was my friend Dr. Campbell, pastor of the Second Presbyterian Church at one time?

Sincerely yours

Protestant Chaplain.

THE MONTCLAIR NATIONAL BANK

MONTCLAIR, N.J.

HUGH R. MONRO
PRESIDENT

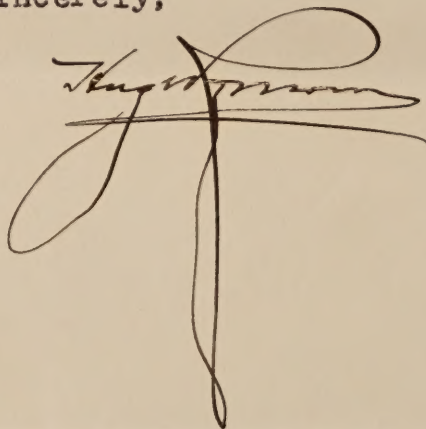
June 12, 1933

Dear Dr. Robinson:

I read your report of the recent Assembly in The Presbyterian yesterday and enjoyed it greatly.

It was not only a record of proceedings, but your discriminating comment gives a fairly clear idea of what is going on behind the scenes. Altogether, it is one of the best things the publication has carried in many a day.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Hugh R. Monro'. The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping loop at the end that extends downwards.

Dr. Stewart M. Robinson,
Second Presbyterian Church,
East Jersey Street near Broad,
Elizabeth, N. J.

HRM:S

WESTMINSTER THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

PHILADELPHIA

J. GRESHAM MACHEN

POST OFFICE ADDRESS
206 SOUTH THIRTEENTH STREET
PHILADELPHIA, PA.

June 14, 1933.

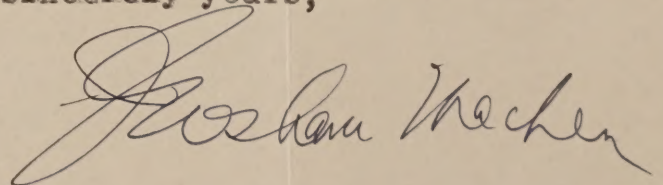
Rev. Stewart M. Robinson, D.D.,
Second Presbyterian Church,
East Jersey Street, near Broad,
Elizabeth, New Jersey.

Dear "Stew":

My reply to your letters of April 4th and April 11th is entirely too late to be of any possible good, and I am very sorry. Although I did carry on a little investigation of your plan for reducing the size of the Assembly, and was in general sympathy with its purpose, I did not get to the point where I could be sure enough that I was right about it to send a formal endorsement. It was very neglectful on my part, the more so since I appreciate your consultation of me in this matter. My duties during this past year have been somewhat too much for me.

It seems to be almost hopeless to get the General Assembly to give up this free trip at the expense of the Church every year, and when the General Assembly is ready to do it the Presbyteries always turn it down, despite the fact that a deliberative body of nine hundred and fifty members is an utter absurdity. Possibly if efforts for the necessary reduction are continued long enough they may be successful. Let us hope so.

Very sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "J. Gresham Machen". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, flowing initial "J" and a long, sweeping underline.

Dear "Das":-

Thank you very much for your letter. I was sorry the Assembly did not get some proposal down to the presbyteries looking to a reduction in the size of the Assembly, ~~but~~ because I think many thoughtful people in the Church are strongly in favor of the move. But of course it is hard to get a crowd to do a thoughtful thing in a hurry.

My feeling is that right now is a time for some strongly constructive leadership along lines which will lead the Church up onto higher ground. The following matters strike me as worthy of thoughtful consideration:-

unordained

(1) The matter of/women holding elected positions of trust and authority in our Church whereas our genius calls for only ordained office-holders.

(2) The matter of the boards appointing interim members to replace deaths, resignations etc. and then calling upon the Assembly to pass ex post facto warrants for these unconstitutional appointments.

(3) The discovery of some way to bring the minutes of the Boards before the Church at large. Are these public records that anyone may survey and report upon?

(4) To study the personnel of our boards and Council etc. with a view to displaying the churches they come from, the pastors, or lay or elder members, their presbyteries, other organizations connected with and in short the whole background of each individual.

(5) To encourage more change in the personnel elected annually at the Assembly. There is too little turn-over, it seems to me.

I think these and other matters are the business of wide-awake presbyters and I should appreciate having some comments from you on these and other matters which may be before you. My conviction is that our Confession, Constitution and Polity are sound and if we will only resolutely work them we shall begin to get somewhere with the Church.

Had some fine visits with Frank Elder at Columbus. Sorry I did not see you. Guess you were busy enough.

Yours very warmly,

The Rev. Dr. J. Gresham Machen,
206 South Thirteenth Street,
Philadelphia, Penna.

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY
PRINCETON NEW JERSEY
—
SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

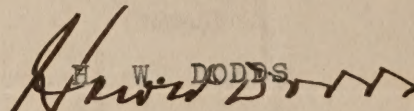
June 19th, 1933.

Dear Mr. Robinson:

I thank you for your good wishes
in your letters of June 16th and 17th.

I should like to do the article
for you, but I have been confronted with so many
requests for articles that I have had to deny them
all for the time being. I find that I am very tired
after a busy year, in which our state survey played
a prominent part, and I just don't have the mental
strength to compose anything. If a little later on
when I have my ideas clarified somewhat you want an
article, I shall be glad to reconsider it.

Very sincerely yours,


E. W. DODDS

The Rev. Stewart M. Robinson,
Second Presbyterian Church,
Elizabeth, N. J.

June 23, 1933.

Dear "Das":-

I understand that the Independent Evangelical Missions Committee will meet Tuesday June 27th. Would it not be ~~an~~ excellent to have a descriptive statement of that meeting over your signature or that of one whom you suggest in put in THE PRESBYTERIAN?

It seems to me to be most important that you supply that publicity. I feel it is important enough that I would be willing to come down and attend or be near at hand, except I think you can give me all that needs to be said and will probably be glad to do so, and save me the trip down.

As you see below I am trying to carry on for the time being. The July 6th issue is on the press July 3rd normally but I think on account of the holiday there is to be some stepping back.

If you could mail it to the office there (or to me here as you please) promptly I can hurry it on its way.

This would be a good move it seems to me.

Yours ever,

The Rev. Dr. J. Cresham Machen,
206 South Thirteenth Street,
Philadelphia, Penna.

THE PRESBYTERIAN
Acting Editor

WESTMINSTER THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
PHILADELPHIA

J. GRESHAM MACHEN

POST OFFICE ADDRESS
206 SOUTH THIRTEENTH STREET
PHILADELPHIA, PA.

June 26, 1933.

Rev. Stewart M. Robinson, D.D.,
Second Presbyterian Church,
East Jersey Street near Broad,
Elizabeth, New Jersey.

Dear "Stew":

Your letter of June 23rd has come into my hands on my return from an absence of ten days. I appreciate your interest in the new Board of Missions; but regret that, since publication of my enclosed communication of February 20, 1930 was refused, I cannot send any contributions to THE PRESBYTERIAN so long as the control of the paper remains what it now is.

Very sincerely yours,

J. Gresham Machen

June 27, 1933.

Dear "Das":-

Thank you for your letter of June 26th. Don't you suppose we can climb over the difficulty you reveal by having the information come to THE PRESBYTERIAN from some one other than yourself, for example, from Dr. Craig, who is a director of THE PRESBYTERIAN and also deeply interested and thoroughly conversant with the matter in question?

It seems to me important that the agenda of this first meeting be presented in some authoritative way to a wide church public.

With warm regards,

Ever yours,

The Rev. Dr. J. Gresham Machen,
206 South Thirteenth Street,
Philadelphia, Penna.

WESTMINSTER THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
PHILADELPHIA

J. GRESHAM MACHEN

POST OFFICE ADDRESS
206 SOUTH THIRTEENTH STREET
PHILADELPHIA, PA.

June 28, 1933.

Rev. Stewart M. Robinson,
Second Presbyterian Church,
East Jersey Street near Broad,
Elizabeth, New Jersey.

Dear "Stew":

In reply to your letter of June 27th, I am
sorry to say that I cannot advise Dr. Craig or anyone else
to send a contribution to THE PRESBYTERIAN.

Very sincerely yours,

J. Gresham Machen

WESTMINSTER THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
PHILADELPHIA

J. GRESHAM MACHEN

POST OFFICE ADDRESS
206 SOUTH THIRTEENTH STREET
PHILADELPHIA, PA.

June 30, 1933.

Rev. Stewart M. Robinson,
Second Presbyterian Church,
East Jersey Street near Broad,
Elizabeth, New Jersey.

Dear "Stew":

Your letter of June 19th was forwarded to me when I was in Jackson, Mississippi. Please understand that my answer is not for publication and that it is of rather a hasty kind, since I am not sure that my opinions on some of the points that you ask about are at all firmly fixed.

I am opposed to women being ordained whether they are or are not on the Boards of the Church. The important thing about members of the Board seems to me to be that they shall have already taken a definite stand against the present modernist dominance in the Boards and Agencies and shall have suffered for that stand. The evil cannot be corrected by any merely organizational changes whatever. It can only be corrected by some such measure as would have been adopted if the minority report from the Standing Committee on Foreign Missions had carried in the 1933 Assembly.

I rather agree with you in thinking that it is a mistake for the Boards to be allowed to appoint ad interim members, though this question seems to me again to be a subordinate question.

I am rather opposed to rotation of any forced kind in the membership of the Boards. The important thing is to put really evangelical men on the Boards and when they are there keep them there.

I do not know whether the minutes of the Boards' fortnightly meetings are public documents, and I am not quite clear whether they ought or ought not to be such.

Sincerely yours,

J. Gresham Machen